



January 16, 2002

Ms. Renata Hesse, Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
601 D Street, N.W., Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse,

I appreciate that my ideas as a livestock business owner can be shared regarding the Microsoft antitrust case.

It is important that the Federal Courts recognize the benefits of competition in business and technology. The Anti-trust laws were written over 100 years ago to protect consumers. In this day and age, it seems, some of Microsoft's competitors want to use them as a safe-guard from competition. A better use of the government's legal power would be an examination of the vertical integration of agricultural conglomerates.

I personally agree with the settlement and hope that you will accept it to bring closure to this litigation that is costing us so much in time and tax dollars.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vernon Suhm'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'V'.

Vernon Suhm, Owner
Suhm Cattle Company
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